

**Introduced by Senators Hancock and Blakeslee**

August 30, 2011

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Senate Resolution No. 19—Relative to the Joint Bioenergy Institute.

1 WHEREAS, The State of California has a long history of leading  
2 the nation and the world in energy conservation, development, and  
3 deployment of renewable energy technologies, and research and  
4 development into new environmentally sustainable energy  
5 technologies and practices; and

6 WHEREAS, As evidence of the state's commitment to  
7 renewable energy and its world class research, industrial and  
8 educational resources, the United States Department of Energy's  
9 Office of Biological and Environmental Research selected the  
10 Joint Bioenergy Institute in 2007 as one of three national bioenergy  
11 research centers that are focused on developing new processes,  
12 systems, and science for the production of cellulosic fuels as a  
13 significant replacement of petroleum-based energy sources; and

14 WHEREAS, Three national laboratories located in California,  
15 including the Sandia National Laboratories, the Lawrence  
16 Livermore National Laboratory, the Lawrence Berkeley National  
17 Laboratory, the Carnegie Institution for Science, and the Berkeley  
18 and Davis campuses of the University of California are close  
19 collaborators in the Joint Bioenergy Institute; and

20 WHEREAS, The Joint Bioenergy Institute is focused on  
21 developing new methods of breaking down biomass and using  
22 microbes to efficiently convert biomass into advanced fuels that  
23 can be used directly with existing vehicles, and other transportation  
24 infrastructure; and

25 WHEREAS, The Joint Bioenergy Institute has demonstrated  
26 the effectiveness of bringing multiinstitutional and

1 multidisciplinary research under one roof to greatly advance the  
2 development of new research strategies and the exploitation of  
3 novel scientific platforms, extending beyond the capability of any  
4 single organization, and has enabled experimentation using a  
5 systems biology approach that is leading to unprecedented findings;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, The Joint Bioenergy Institute has already disclosed  
8 82 inventions, filed 39 patents, has over 20 technologies in  
9 licensing negotiations, and is working in close collaboration with  
10 industry, including California-based energy and green technology  
11 companies; and

12 WHEREAS, Ultimately, research at the Joint Bioenergy Institute  
13 will launch an array of creative advances in science, medicine, and  
14 industry and help develop biology-based solutions to some of the  
15 nation's most critical energy problems, such as sustainable  
16 biology-based fuels and other products; and

17 WHEREAS, The Joint Bioenergy Institute's location in  
18 California at an epicenter of world class research institutions,  
19 leading green technology companies, energy companies, venture  
20 capital, and political support for renewable energy allows this  
21 facility to build upon the state's unsurpassed commitment to  
22 developing sustainable energy alternatives and conservation  
23 practices, and provides an ideal incubator for moving scientific  
24 advances from the laboratory to the marketplace; and

25 WHEREAS, No other single region of the world can match  
26 California's concentration of science and technology leadership,  
27 backed by business and entrepreneurial expertise and a tradition  
28 of academic excellence; and

29 WHEREAS, The Joint Bioenergy Institute serves as an anchor  
30 of fundamental knowledge and capabilities that attracts and grows  
31 a cluster of new enterprises and opportunities, thereby further  
32 enhancing California's economy; and

33 WHEREAS, California's vibrant and aggressive venture capital  
34 community and intellectual property know-how is harnessing and  
35 commercializing the technological advances made at the Joint  
36 Bioenergy Institute in biotechnology, the life sciences, and energy  
37 technologies, helping to grow new California-based businesses  
38 and maintaining and enhancing California's scientific and  
39 economic competitiveness; and

1 WHEREAS, The Joint Bioenergy Institute well serves the  
2 citizens of California; now, therefore, be it

3 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California*, That the Senate  
4 extends its congratulations and commendations for an extremely  
5 successful and productive five years to the Joint Bioenergy Institute  
6 in furthering energy security and improved environmental  
7 stewardship of the planet to the Sandia National Laboratories, the  
8 Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, the Lawrence Berkeley  
9 National Laboratory, the Carnegie Institution for Science, the  
10 University of California, Berkeley, and the University of California,  
11 Davis; and be it further

12 *Resolved*, That the Senate recognizes the value, leadership, and  
13 service that the Joint Bioenergy Institute brings to California, and  
14 affirms its support for the Joint Bioenergy Institute in California;  
15 and be it further

16 *Resolved*, That the Senate encourages the United States  
17 Department of Energy to carefully review and consider the renewal  
18 of the Joint Bioenergy Institute, keeping in mind the unmatched  
19 scientific, academic, and business resources present in California  
20 that are helping to deliver a tremendous return on the federal  
21 government's investment; and be it further

22 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
23 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.